DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 261 599 HE 018 697

AUTHOR Allen, David F.
TITLE Survey of Black Graduates, Fall 1983-Summer 1984.
INSTITUTION North Carolina Univ., Wilmington.
PUB DATE 85
NOTE 14p.
PUB TYPE Reports - Research/Technical (143) -- Tests/Evaluation Instruments (160)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Academic Aspiration; *Black Students; *College Graduates; Education Work Relationship; *Employment Experience; Graduate Study; *Graduate Surveys; Higher Education; Income; Institutional Research; Occupational Aspiration; Professional Continuing Education; Questionnaires; *Student Attitudes
IDENTIFIERS *University of North Carolina Wilmington

ABSTRACT

A survey of nine black students who graduated from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in fall 1983 or summer 1984 was conducted. The graduates' current activities were identified, along with their reactions to their educational experience at the university. Five of the graduates were employed, and four were employed full-time. The average income for the full-timers was $12,000. Over half indicated that their jobs were related to their degree. One graduate who was teaching elementary school was also taking courses to obtain a master's degree in elementary education, while another graduate was pursuing a law degree. Four respondents were seeking employment, and three had been searching more than 90 days. The graduates felt that the university helped them to understand ideas and a field of knowledge and helped them to relate to others. The questionnaire and cover letters are appended. (SW)

**********
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
**********

ED261599

# SURVEY OF BLACK GRADUATES

## Fall 1983 - Summer 1984

David F. Allen
Special Assistant to the
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
Office of Institutional Research

RB-CPPC-04-04-85

HE018697

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

David F. Allen

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☑ The document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official NIE position or policy.

SURVEY OF BLACK UNCW GRADUATES - FALL 1983-SUMMER 1984

(N=9)

This report describes the reactions of nine black graduates who responded to a survey sent to all students graduating between the fall of 1983 and the summer of 1984. Areas addressed in this report include a description of black graduates in four major areas: those currently employed, those continuing their education, those not employed or continuing their education, and a general section for everyone concerning reactions to their educational experience while at UNCW.

PARTICIPANTS

On December 19, 1984 and subsequently on January 18, 1985, UNCW sent a survey of graduates to 673 alumni. Of this number, 29 were non-deliverable: 27 because of unknown addresses and 2 because identification numbers had been removed. From this population of 644 graduates, a total of 332 responded after one follow-up mailing for a 51.6% response rate. Blacks represented 3% of the original mailing. None of the surveys for the 23 black graduates in the original mailing were returned as non-deliverable. A total of nine (39%) black graduates responded to the survey. This compared to 323 (52%) of the whites who responded. A third follow-up survey is being sent to the 14 black non-respondents with a composite report forthcoming. Responses included surveys from two males and seven females. There were six B.A. recipients, one B.S. and one A.A. The overall GPA was 2.63. Men averaged 2.036 while women averaged 2.801. Summary information is given in Table 1.

GRADUATES CURRENTLY EMPLOYED

Five graduates are currently employed. All work in North Carolina (three in Wilmington, one in Lumberton, one in Charlotte). All but one is permanently employed full-time (35 hours or more per week). Job titles include: Quality Control Lab Technician; Child Care Worker;

Registered Nurse; Elementary Education Teacher; Inventory Specialist and Auditor (part-time). Most rated themselves as between fairly satisfied and neutral concerning their present jobs. With the exception of one part-time worker, the others worked between 37 and 40 hours per week. Over half (60%) said their jobs were very related to their latest UNCW degree.

Answers were evenly spread when they were asked how related was their current job to their long-term career plans: two said very related, one said somewhat related, and the other two said not related at all.

Annual income ranged from a part-time worker making $5.25 per hour to one graduate making between $15,000-18,000 per year. The average income came to $12,000 per year when part-time wages were excluded.

Three of the five heard about their jobs from family or friends; one heard of her job through direct contact with an employer; the other read about her part-time position in the newspaper.

Only one graduate is currently taking courses at an institution of higher education in addition to being employed. This person is working 37 hours per week teaching elementary school as well as working toward a Master's in elementary education at UNCW with aspirations of obtaining a doctorate in the same field. Her main source of income is her job wherein she makes $15,000-18,000 per year. Her main reasons for continuing her education include to increase earning power, satisfy personal ambition or goals, enhance employability and provide for career advancement.

In addition, when asked to reflect upon her educational experience, she claimed that UNCW very much contributed to her progress in understanding ideas, relating to others, understanding a field of knowledge, and preparing for employment. She also rated each of these

areas as having very much importance in influencing that progress. Her comments of UNCW in general and the Masters of Education Program specifically were very positive.

GRADUATES CONTINUING EDUCATION

Two graduates are continuing their education. One is working full-time as previously discussed. The other is a female currently working toward her law degree at North Carolina Central University, whose highest aspiration is the J.D. degree. Her main source of income this current year is a government or institutional loan. Her total income is between $2,500-5,000 not including her parents earnings. She strongly agreed that her reasons to continue her education were to: satisfy job requirements, enter a more preferred occupation, increase earning power, satisfy personal ambition or goals, enhance employability, and provide for career advancement.

GRADUATES NOT EMPLOYED OR NOT CONTINUING THEIR EDUCATION

Four graduates said they were currently seeking employment. Three have been searching more than 90 days; the other is not seeking employment because his parents' health does not allow him to search for employment. Of the three who have been looking for employment for more than 3 months, one is male. Of the females, one is very job dissatisfied and is working 10 hours per week in a permanent part-time position as an Inventory Specialist and Auditor. She claims her job is somewhat related to her UNCW degree, but says it is unrelated to her long-range career plans. She makes $5.25 per hour. When asked how related her employment was to her major field of study, she said she could not find an appropriate job in her major.

When considering her educational experience, she said that "understanding a field of knowledge" was the only area in which UNCW contributed very much to her progress. She also rated this area as "very important to her progress." She rated "understanding ideas," "relating

to others," and "preparing for employment" as very important areas for her to make progress in, but said that UNCW contributed little in those areas.

GENERAL SECTION

The last section of the survey was to be completed by everyone. Graduates were asked to rate how much UNCW contributed to their progress and how important that progress was to them in five areas. In the area of "understanding ideas" and "understanding a field of knowledge" everyone said UNCW contributed either "very much" or "much." Six of nine said this area was very important to them. In terms of "relating to others" seven of nine said UNCW contributed "very much" toward their progress. Six said that progress in this area was very important to them. As to "appreciating the arts" the group as a whole said UNCW contributed "much" to their progress; whereas the group rated the importance of progress in this area between "very much" and "much."

Finally, in terms of preparation for employment, five of eight said UNCW contributed very much to their progress. Almost all (89%) said that progress in this area was "very important to them." All but one student claimed their highest degree now held was the Bachelor's degree from UNCW. The one student employed part-time claimed that she held a Bachelor's degree from UNC-CH.

Two graduates made additional comments. Their comments are listed below:

> "I hope that UNCW will expand its opportunities and courses in the M.Ed. program very soon. I think UNCW is terrific!" (female employed full-time and attending graduate school at UNCW)
>
> "I am a speech communications major and I am still waiting to break into the field of television here at one of the

T.V. stations." (male unemployed and seeking work for more than 90 days)

## SUMMARY

In summary, blacks responded at a disproportionately lower rate than did whites in the population. It may also be true that blacks in the population are not as mobile as whites, given that none of the surveys sent to blacks were returned for lack of forwarding addresses. It is also interesting to note that seven of the nine responses from blacks were from females. Furthermore, all of those employed (N=5) were female. The average income was $12,000. Only the female working part-time gave evidence that she was underemployed and perhaps job dissatisfied. Only one full-time worker was also continuing her education. The other graduate pursuing more education was also a female currently enrolled full-time in law school at NCCU.

Four graduates were either not employed or not continuing their education. Of those four, two are male. One has been looking for employment greater than three months. The other is not seeking employment due to family illness. Of the two females, both have been searching for jobs for more than three months. One is working part-time.

Although generalizations based on such a small sample size are risky, the following conclusions are offered. In this population, blacks are less likely to respond than whites; employed black females are likeliest to respond; UNCW has contributed most to black graduates in the areas of understanding ideas and a field of knowledge as well as enabling them to relate to others.

TABLE 1

SUMMARY OF BLACK GRADUATES

(N=9)

| Sex | Graduation Date | Major | Degree | GPA $\bar{X}$=2.63 | Currently Employed $\bar{X}$=$12,000 | Continuing Education | Not Employed or Not Cont. Ed. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| F | May 1984 | EEI | BA | 3.707 | $15-18,000 | MEd/UNCW | -- |
| F | May 1984 | NUR | AA | 2.396 | $12-15,000 | — | — |
| F | Dec 1983 | SOC | BA | 2.555 | -- | JD/NCCU | -- |
| F | Dec 1983 | SOC | BA | 2.879 | $10-12,000 | — | -- |
| F | Dec 1983 | CSC | BS | 2.792 | $5.25/hr(PT) | -- | -- |
| F | May 1984 | CSC | BS | 2.927 | -- | — | Looking more than 90 days |
| M | Dec 1983 | COM | BA | 2.012 | -- | | Looking more than 90 days |
| F | May 1984 | BIO | BA | 2.351 | $10,000 or less | -- | Looking more than 90 days |
| M | Dec 1983 | GGY | BA | 2.059 | — | -- | Not looking |

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
AT WILMINGTON
601 SOUTH COLLEGE ROAD
WILMINGTON, N.C. 28403-3297

WILLIAM H. WAGONER
Chancellor

TELEPHONE: (919) 395-3030

December 14, 1984

Dear Graduate:

The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, in conjunction with the academic departments, is conducting a study of all UNC-Wilmington alumni who have graduated since the Fall of 1983.

We are very much interested in the career development of our graduates. As you have perhaps taken on work responsibilities your hopes and expectations have been put to the test. We need to know how constraints of the job market or experiences in your first employment setting have affected further changes in your career plans. Those of you who have continued your studies beyond the Bachelor's level are more likely to have been trained in a particular career discipline by the time you enter the job market. However, we would like to know whether you are pursuing graduate study in fields unrelated to your undergraduate major. We recognize that your eventual career outcome may not have been necessarily established by your senior year or even by completion of graduate study. Nevertheless, we are dedicated to monitoring the career development of our graduates, especially the crucial first years of employment.

This questionnaire was designed for graduates in various career situations. We ask that you complete the sections of the form that apply to your current status. We encourage you to utilize the space for additional comments. The analysis of the aggregate information collected will be made available to aid students in their career planning decisions and to academic departments for program evaluation.

The information collected during this study will be released in aggregate form only and individual responses will remain strictly confidential. We encourage you to participate in this project since your response will have an impact on the University and on future UNC-Wilmington graduates. We thank you for your cooperation and wish you every success in your future plans and activities.

Sincerely,

William H. Wagoner

William H. Wagoner
Chancellor

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



The University of North Carolina at Wilmington is a constituent institution
of THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA -- William C. Friday, President

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
AT WILMINGTON
601 SOUTH COLLEGE ROAD
WILMINGTON, N.C. 28403-3297

WILLIAM H. WAGONER
Chancellor

TELEPHONE (919) 791-4330

January 23, 1985

Dear Graduate:

Recently, we mailed you a confidential questionnaire inquiring about your career development. Using a numbering system on your survey, we are able to separate those who have responded from those who have not. As before, individual responses will remain strictly confidential.

Information you provide will enable us to answer the following questions related to the outcomes of higher education at UNCW:

- Do college graduates have good jobs?
- Do college graduates have good incomes?
- Do college graduates like their jobs?
- Do college graduates think their education was relevant to their jobs?
- Do college graduates feel satisfied about the colleges they attended?
- Do college graduates think their education gave them breadth of knowledge about various fields?
- Do college graduates think their education helped them in understanding and relating to other people?
- Do college graduates continue their education?

We encourage you to participate in this project since your responses will have an impact on the university and on future UNC-Wilmington graduates. Please take a few minutes now to complete the sections that apply to you. We thank you for your cooperation and wish you every success in your future plans and activities.

Sincerely,

William H. Wagoner

William H. Wagoner
Chancellor

WHW:tle



The University of North Carolina at Wilmington is a constituent institution
of THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA — William C. Friday, President

## SURVEY OF UNCW GRADUATES

Directions: There are four sections to this form.
Section A is for those currently employed.
Section B is for those presently continuing their education.
Section C is for those not employed or not continuing their education.
Section D is for everyone.

---

---

**SECTION A** (Please complete this section only if you are **currently employed**)

A-1) Location of your present job (or headquarters location of your company, if you travel extensively).

City _____ State _____

A-2) Specific name of organization in which you currently work.

_____

A-3) Type of industry (e.g., manufacturing-textiles or state government-elementary, secondary, health care agency, etc.)

_____

A-4) Specific job title (e.g., Mgmt. Trainee, Retail Sales, Computer Programer I).

_____

A-5) How satisfied are you with your present job? (Circle Number)
1 Very Satisfied
2 Fairly Satisfied
3 Neutral
4 Fairly Dissatisfied
5 Very Dissatisfied

A-6) Please circle the number that best describes your employment status:
1 Permanent Full-time (35 hours or more per week)
2 Temporary Full-time (35 hours or more per week)
3 Permanent Part-time (less than 35 hours per week)
4 Temporary Part-time (less than 35 hours per week)

A-7) How many hours per week do you usually work at your job?

_____ hrs/wk

A-8) How related is your present job to your latest UNCW degree? (Circle number)
1 Very Related
2 Somewhat Related
3 Not Related at all

A-9) How related is your current job to your long-range career plans? (Circle number)

1 Very Related
2 Somewhat Related
3 Not Related

A-10) Please check below your current annual income. Recall that this is strictly confidential. (Circle number)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Hourly wage: $ _____ | 6 | $18,001-$20,000 |
| 2 | Less than $10,000 | 7 | $20,001-$23,000 |
| 3 | $10,001-$12,000 | 8 | $23,001-$25,000 |
| 4 | $12,001-$15,000 | 9 | $25,001-$30,000 |
| 5 | $15,001-$18,000 | 10 | $30,001-or more |

A-11) How did you first learn about your current job? (Circle only one)

1 Already employed in position
2 Through family or friends
3 Through the Career Planning and Placement Center
4 Direct contact with employers
5 Through UNC-W Career Day
6 Through Faculty at UNC-W
7 Other (please specify):

A-12) How related is your employment to your major field of study?

1 Employed in my field
2 Never planned to work in that field
3 Could not find appropriate job in that area
4 Developed new career interest
5 Field of study does not necessarily relate to a specified career.

A-13) Are you currently taking courses at an institution of higher education, in addition to being employed? (Circle number)

1 Yes → If yes, please complete **Section B.**
2 No

---

SECTION B (Please complete this section only if you are **continuing your education.**)

---

B-1) What degree are you currently trying to obtain? What is the highest degree you hope to obtain? (Circle one in each column)

| Currently working Toward | Highest Degree Sought | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 | Bachelors |
| 2 | 2 | Masters |
| 3 | 3 | Professional (MD, DDS, JD, MSN, etc.) |
| 4 | 4 | Doctorate (Ph.D, Ed.D, etc.) |

Field of Study _____ _____

B-2) Name of institution you are currently attending.

_____

B-3) What is your main source of income this current year? (Circle only one)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Fellowship | 6 | Investments |
| 2 | Teaching/Research Assistantship | 7 | Aid from family |
| 3 | Non-academic job | 8 | Personal loan |
| 4 | Spouse's job | 9 | Government or institutional loan |
| 5 | Savings | 10 | Other |

B-4) What is your total annual income? (Do not include your parents' income)

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Less than $2,500 | 5 | $12,001-$15,000 | 9 | $23,001-$25,000 |
| 2 | $2,501-$5,000 | 6 | $15,001-$18,000 | 10 | $25,001-$30,000 |
| 3 | $5,001-$10,000 | 7 | $18,001-$20,000 | 11 | $30,001 or more |
| 4 | $10,001-$12,000 | 8 | $20,001-$23,000 | | |

B-5) Please indicate your level of agreement with the following reasons for continuing your education (Circle one number for each row):

| | Strongly Agree | Agree Somewhat | Disagree Somewhat | Strongly Disagree |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A. Satisfy job requirements | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| B. Enter a more preferred occupation | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| C. Increase earning power | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| D. Satisfy personal ambition or goals | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| E. Enhance employability | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| F. Provide for career advancement | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

---

SECTION C (Please complete this section only if **NOT EMPLOYED** or **NOT CONTINUING** your education)

---

C-1) If you are currently seeking employment, how long have you been searching? (Circle one)

1 Less than 30 days
2 Between 30 and 90 days
3 More than 90 days
4 Not seeking employment

C-2) If not seeking employment, please indicate primary reason: (Circle one)

1 Unable to work for health reasons (other than pregnancy)
2 Do not want to work outside home now.
3 Spouses' income is sufficient
4 Child-rearing or pregnancy prevents me from working
5 Am discouraged from past experiences or do not think I will find a job even if I start searching
6 Other (please specify) _____

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

SECTION D (This section is to be completed by EVERYONE)

D-1) In thinking over your educational experience, how much did UNCW contribute to your progress in each area? How important is that progress to you? (Circle one number for each of the two sub-headings)

| | Progress | | | | Importance | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Very Much | Much | Little | No | Very Much | Much | Little | No |
| A. Understanding ideas | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| B. Relating to others | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| C. Appreciating the Arts (literature, music, art, drama) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| D. Understanding a field of knowledge | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| E. Preparing for employment | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

D-2) What is the highest degree you now hold? Please identify school if other than UNCW. (Circle number)

| Degree | School |
|---|---|
| 1. Bachelors | _____ |
| 2. Masters | _____ |
| 3. Professional | _____ |
| 4. Doctorate | _____ |

Please add additional comments as needed.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please use the enclosed self-addressed envelope to return your survey. Good luck with your future endeavors!

** University of North Carolina at Wilmington is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not discriminate against applicants, students or employees based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age or handicap. Moreover, The University of North Carolina at Wilmington is open to people of all races and actively seeks to promote racial integration by recruiting and enrolling a larger number of black students.